

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 28, 2003

SENATE BILL

No. 683

Introduced by Senator Alpert

February 21, 2003

An act to add ~~Article 7 (commencing with Section 49085) to Chapter 6.5 of Part 27 Chapter 5.5 (commencing with Section 60660) to Part 33~~ of the Education Code, relating to education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 683, as amended, Alpert. ~~Pupil Achievement Software Program~~ *Pupil Assessment Data: Analysis: Electronic Resources: review.*

Existing law requires each school district, charter school, and county office of education to administer to each of its pupils in grades 2 to 11, inclusive, certain achievement tests.

This bill would ~~establish the Pupil Achievement Software Incentive Program. The bill would require the State Board of Education to establish software standards for new computer software and modifications to existing computer software regarding the ability to monitor the academic achievement of pupils on the annual statewide achievement tests and other measures of pupil progress over time and the ability to provide data about pupil achievement to principals and teachers that can be used to inform instructional decisions and to approve software in compliance with those standards. Superintendent of Public Instruction to determine whether the California Learning Resource Network has the resources necessary to review new and existing electronic programs and resources capable of assisting schools and school districts analyze assessment information and improve pupil achievement. If the Superintendent of Public Instruction determines~~

that the network has those resources and that additional state funding is not necessary, the bill would require the Superintendent of Public Instruction to request the network to perform and complete the review by January 1, 2005. The bill would require the review to include a descriptive model for use by administrators and teachers that differentiates and compares the capabilities of the different types of electronic programs and resources.

The bill would require the review to include an exploration of the feasibility of creating, implementing, and maintaining an online customer satisfaction system. The bill would require the State Board of Education to approve an implementation plan before the state incurs any costs associated with an online customer satisfaction system.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 2 following:
- 3 (a) The purpose of California's public school accountability
- 4 system is to improve the learning and academic achievement of all
- 5 California public school pupils.
- 6 (b) The Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR)
- 7 achievement tests provide a wealth of data about individual pupil
- 8 achievement in different academic content clusters. Currently, this
- 9 assessment data does not sufficiently reach most principals and
- 10 teachers so they can efficiently utilize it in recognizing the level
- 11 of achievement of each pupil and designing a program that is best
- 12 tailored to meet the needs and improve the achievement of each
- 13 pupil.
- 14 (c) This information can and should be congregated to provide
- 15 teachers and principals all relevant data regarding individual pupil
- 16 learning and achievement so they make better decisions and design
- 17 more individualized learning and instructional programs for each
- 18 pupil.
- 19 (d) Hundreds of thousands of public school pupils transfer
- 20 schools each school year, making it difficult for principals and
- 21 teachers to obtain and utilize the available data regarding the status
- 22 and level of academic preparedness of each incoming pupil.



(e) The use of data to inform and determine decisionmaking is revolutionizing public and private entities worldwide by putting formerly centralized information at the fingertips of educators so they can make informed decisions with regard to improving academic achievement of their pupils.

(f) Many schools remain unsophisticated with respect to utilizing information technology to craft more fitting programs that strive to improve the learning and achievement of their pupils.

(g) Easy-to-use software is now available to provide educators increased capacity to appreciate the achievement status of their pupils and to better design programs tailored toward their improvement.

(h) Putting easy-to-use software in the hands of principals and teachers would allow them to monitor pupil academic achievement over time and use that data to far more effectively design instructional strategies to improve pupil performance.

~~SEC. 2. Article 7 (commencing with Section 49085) is added~~

SEC. 2. Chapter 5.5 (commencing with Section 60660) is added to Part 33 of the Education Code, to read:

CHAPTER 5.5. REVIEW OF ELECTRONIC RESOURCES
CAPABLE OF ANALYZING PUPIL ASSESSMENT DATA

60660. The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall determine whether the California Learning Resource Network has the resources necessary to review new and existing electronic programs and resources as set forth in this article. If the Superintendent of Public Instruction determines that the California Learning Resource Network has those resources and that additional state funding is not necessary, the Superintendent of Public Instruction shall request the California Learning Resource Network to perform the review as set forth in this article and complete that review by January 1, 2005.

60661. (a) The review performed by California Learning Resource Network shall identify new and existing electronic programs and resources capable of assisting schools and school districts to analyze assessment information and improve pupil achievement and shall include a descriptive model for use by administrators and teachers that differentiates and compares the

1 capabilities of the different types of identified electronic programs
2 and resources.

3 (b) The descriptive model shall include all of the following
4 criteria:

5 (1) The ability to analyze the results of the statewide pupil
6 assessment programs in aggregate and disaggregate forms.

7 (2) The ability to quickly identify achievement gaps.

8 (3) The ability to link results of assessment to instructional
9 strategies that are aligned to state adopted content standards and
10 the curriculum frameworks.

11 (4) The extent to which information can be tailored to
12 individual pupil level, school level, classroom level, school district
13 level, and state level data.

14 (5) The ability to integrate into daily assessment processes to
15 reduce the overhead of maintaining and updating a formative
16 assessment system.

17 (c) In performing its review, the California Learning Resources
18 Network may not make subject evaluations of the electronic
19 programs and resources under review and shall limit its review to
20 the factual capabilities of those programs and resources.

21 60662. In its review of electronic programs and resources, the
22 California Learning Resource Network shall explore the
23 feasibility of creating, implementing, and maintaining an online
24 customer satisfaction system that would allow purchasers of the
25 electronic programs and resources identified and included in the
26 descriptive model to rate the effectiveness of those programs and
27 resources and that would allow anonymous access to those ratings.
28 As a result of exploring the feasibility of creating, implementing,
29 and maintaining an online customer satisfaction function, the
30 California Learning Resource Network shall recommend an
31 implementation plan to the State Board of Education which shall
32 approve that plan before the state incurs any costs associated with
33 an online customer satisfaction system.

34 ~~to Chapter 6.5 of Part 27 of the Education Code, to read:~~

35

36 ~~Article 7. The Pupil Achievement Software Program~~

37

38 ~~49085. (a) The Pupil Achievement Software Program is~~
39 ~~hereby established.~~



1 ~~(b) The State Board of Education shall approve computer~~
2 ~~software and modifications to existing computer software that~~
3 ~~meet the state standards for use in schools.~~

4 ~~(c) The State Board of Education shall establish standards for~~
5 ~~new computer software and modifications to existing computer~~
6 ~~software regarding the following:~~

7 ~~(1) The ability to monitor the academic achievement of pupils~~
8 ~~on state assessments and other measures, including performance~~
9 ~~assessment items, of pupil progress over time.~~

10 ~~(2) The ability to provide data about pupil achievement to~~
11 ~~principals and teachers that can be used to develop instructional~~
12 ~~strategies tailored to the individual pupil and to improve pupil~~
13 ~~achievement.~~

14 ~~(3) The ability to modify or purchase computer software~~
15 ~~developed or modified by a school district, county office of~~
16 ~~education, or charter school for the purpose of monitoring pupil~~
17 ~~achievement and providing data to principals and teachers to better~~
18 ~~inform instructional decisions.~~

19 ~~(4) The information derived from this program is exclusively~~
20 ~~for the purpose of enabling principals and teachers to better design~~
21 ~~programs tailored to the individual level of capacity, achievement,~~
22 ~~and needs of each pupil and may not be used in the evaluation and~~
23 ~~assessment of certificated employee performance.~~

24 ~~(d) Funding for the purposes of this article is contingent upon~~
25 ~~an appropriation for that purpose in the annual Budget Act or an~~
26 ~~appropriation contained in another measure, or both.~~

